

Sulzberger, C. L. **The Fall of Eagles.**

Crown, 1977. 408p. illus., some color. maps. index. LC 76-50926. ISBN 0-517-52817-7. \$17.95.

HIST

Supposedly about the "death of the great European dynasties"—excepting England—Sulzberger's presentation never rises above the anecdotal level. His facts are frequently wrong: he mistakenly says Baron von Stein provided Prussia with a constitution, he gives the wrong date and the wrong reason for the departure of Chancellor Bülöw in 1909, and he has the Battle of Tannenberg in the wrong month, to give only three examples. His judgments of persons are untrustworthy and hardly rise above the level of cliché; nor are his more general historical appraisals any better: of the work of Frederick the Great, he says, "All he did, in effect, was create a vast commotion." And while Sulzberger's style is readable, his writing is often careless and his presentation disorganized. He concludes: "And what is history? Voltaire wrote: 'History is . . . only a pack of tricks we play on the dead.'" Amen.—*John G. Williamson, Yale Univ. Lib.*

Sutton, Antony C. **Wall Street and the Rise of Hitler.**

'76 Pr. 1977. 220p. bibliog. index. LC 76-14011. ISBN 0-89245-004-5. \$8.95.

BUS/HIST

Sutton has produced scholarly studies of Soviet economic development, but readers of this volume would never guess it. Every feature of the book, from its argumentation to its typography, displays astounding carelessness. Sutton is ill-informed about German history and thus commits glaring factual errors which could have been avoided by even casual reading of standard works in the field. But as he explains, the book is intended to "redress an assumed and quite inaccurate philosophical imbalance" by showing that National Socialism, as much as "Sovietism and domestic socialism," was supported by the "New York based elitist Establishment . . . , operating with deliberation and knowledge to suppress the Constitution and a free society." With this explanation of events assumed axiomatically, the rest of the book becomes an exercise in twisting facts and logic. Even a library seeking to satisfy like-minded readers could not justify purchasing this volume, since those who reason as Sutton does will come to the same conclusions regardless of what they read.—*Robert J. Gibbons, Dept. of History, St. Joseph's Coll., Philadelphia*

Vallangca, Roberto V., comp., ed. & illus. **Pinoy: the first wave.**

Strawberry Hill Pr., dist. by Stackpole, 1977. 160p. illus. LC 76-047180. ISBN 0-89407-000-2. \$6.95.

HIST

In its initial offering, Strawberry Hill Press has produced a flawed history of early Filipino immigration to the U.S., covering the years 1898-1941. This migration was predominantly male (Pinoy), consisting primarily of students, farm laborers, and military personnel who had served in the American Armed Forces. Unfortunately, the his-

torical section is based on the undocumented research of the author, supplemented by the recollections of other early Filipino immigrants. Vallangca, a chiropractor and amateur historian, provides a sketchy outline of settlement patterns, occupational mobility, social mores, and cultural adaptations to the new environment, but his narrative is undisciplined and repetitive. The oral histories that comprise the second half of the volume are shallow, unstructured, episodic remembrances that fail to capture more than a textbook understanding of the immigrant psyche or to analyze the structure of Filipino-American society. There is a dearth of material on the Filipinos; this study does little to improve that sorry situation.—*Philip F. Mooney, Balch Inst. Lib., Philadelphia*

Vicinus, Martha, ed. **A Widening Sphere: changing roles of Victorian women.**

Indiana Univ. Pr. Jun. 1977. 288p. illus. bibliog. index. LC 76-26433. ISBN 0-253-36540-6. \$12.50.

SOC SCI/HIST

The goal of this collection is to reconsider the predominant generalizations made about Victorian women and, by using research methods drawn from areas like anthropology, demography, sociology of literature, and psychoanalysis, to examine the gap between the idealization and the actuality. The result is a fascinating variety of essays on topics, some previously unexplored, pertinent to women and Victorian history: property laws, penny magazines, Contagious Disease Acts, female mortality rates. The writers do not exaggerate the success of feminism but illustrate its achievements in relating women to the larger issues of the period. The articles are intelligent, well documented, and very readable. An excellent bibliography by Barbara Kanner classifies Victorian and contemporary sources under social/historical headings like health care, sexology, science, and social science. The volume is valuable for those interested in women's studies and in Victorianism.—*Rita Weinberg Tesler, English Dept., Jersey City State Coll., N.J.*

Weigley, Russell F., ed. & intro. **New Dimensions in Military History: an anthology.**

Presidio Pr. 1977. 419p. LC 76-4159. ISBN 0-89141-002-3. \$14.95.

HIST

Americans ought to know something of the history taught to the high-ranking professionals in the military establishment; Weigley's excellent selections of lectures presented at the Army War College makes some of that information available. If one might question parts of some of the interpretations, so much the more reason to make them available for perusal. The essays vary in quality, utility, and freshness; some are carefully documented, others represent a more subjective viewpoint; all are impressive. Highly recommended for library purchase.—*Herman Hattaway, Dept. of History, Univ. of Missouri, Kansas City*

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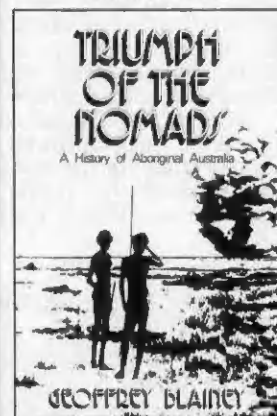
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